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# Bush held unsuited to run CIA

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Washington—Senator Frank Church (D., Idaho), who heads the Senate panel investigating the Central Intelligence Agency, urged yesterday rejection of George Bush's nomination to run the CIA on grounds the former Republican National Committee chairman is ill-equipped to direct an independent, non-partisan intelligence apparatus.

Mr. Bush, with the possibility of a vice presidential nomination dangling before him next year, would be "hopelessly compromised," Mr. Church contended, asserting at another point he knew of no time when President Ford's choice to head CIA had taken "serious issue with a president of his own party."

The CIA director must be independent and capable of telling the president "you are wrong" in some proposed course of action overseas when intelligence facts so indicate, Mr. Church testified to the Senate Armed Services Committee, which is considering and almost certainly will approve the Bush appointment.

By way of refutation, Mr. Bush told the panel in his second day of testimony that, as Republican party chairman, he wrote former President Richard M. Nixon a letter "asking that he resign." Mr. Bush said he thought that was "demonstrable independence" of the type Mr. Church demanded.

Questioning brought out that he wrote the letter "at the very end"—in August, 1974—after the "final revelation of the last [Nixon] tape." That was the June 23, 1973, tape, made six days after the Watergate break-in, which the White House conceded showed Mr. Nixon's effort to use the CIA in a Watergate cover-up. It was released August 6, 1974, three days before Mr. Nixon announced his resignation.